

CRUSHING COTTON SEED IS LARGE LOCAL INDUSTRY

Memphis Biggest Crushing Center in World and One of Chief Markets for the Products.

Millions of dollars annually are represented in the industry of cottonseed crushing in Memphis, while other millions are involved in the business handled through this center from the territory contiguous. More seed are crushed here than at any center in the world, about a dozen mills being engaged therein, while an increasing amount of the products are being converted into the finished product. The mills are operated only a part of each year, the seed supply being insufficient to keep them busy all the time. They draw their supplies from several states, helped by the excellent transportation facilities, although competition from the interior mills is such that the area is limited.

Statistics are unavailable as to how much seed are annually crushed here, but they total way up into the thousands of tons, a large proportion of which come from the rich alluvial sections where quality is better than those grown in the hill sections. The oil content, the most valuable part, is greater, and the result is that prices always are higher where grade and condition are the same. The chief products are oil, meal, cake, linters and hulls. It is figured that the seed and products add each year to the value of the cotton crop not less than a quarter of a billion dollars. The proportion of this handled by the local trade compared with the city's part in handling the lint cotton crop is not anything like as large, for the reason that the seed are more bulky and marketing of them and their products do not require anything like the expert skill that the other does.

The oil, which comes from the mills in crude form, has then to be refined before it is sold for edible and most other purposes, most of which is done outside the cotton belt. This city has some refineries, but they use only a small part of the output of the mills here and in this territory. The one largest use of cottonseed oil is in the manufacture of cooking fats and oils, so the principal purchasers are the packers and those engaged in making such. The low grades, however, find an enormous use in the manufacture of soap, some of the finest qualities having cottonseed oil as one of their basic ingredients. The oil also goes into almost numberless other things, but its greatest use is for edible purposes, education of its values having made wonderful progress during the past few years.

Additional Uses.
The meal and cake, the chief residue left after the oil is crushed out, afford unexcelled feed for live stock, while concentrated strength is desired, while the low grade quality finds its way into the finest sorts of fertilizer where ammonia is desired. The hulls are used for roughness for live stock and always find ample outlet.
The linters, the short, fuzzy stuff that

is taken off the seed before they are cleaned and crushed, have an increased number of uses each year, but perhaps the most notable was that of going into powder and gunnition during the recent big war.

Because of the city's prominence as a crushing center and its contiguity to the largest producing section of the belt every aid to making it the leading market has been afforded by the Merchants' exchange, which is the business body through which the trade regulates itself and the handling of the business. It has for years had established rules and regulations for carrying on the business and for adjusting differences among the trade, more arbitrations being had here than anywhere else in the United States. The exchange has done everything possible to facilitate satisfactory handling of the business, and there are more people here in various departments of the trade than any other city in the country. The financial community has recognized the importance of the industry and has ever lent its co-operation in developing and fostering it.

Because cottonseed meal and hulls are important ingredients in certain kinds of mixed feeds for live stock and this city is such a large market therefore, manufacturers of such have been encouraged to establish plants here.

The importance of affording handlers of meal as well as those who buy it, better knowledge of what the market quotations should be has been established through the Merchants' exchange a call board for trading in meal for immediate and future delivery. Rules and regulations have been adopted, with every facility and protection for those who either buy or sell. This was for a time interfered with by the war, but has recently been re-established and is expected to make the prices here standard for the entire country.

Prisoner Escapes Jail Neatly, But Liberty Is Short

NEW YORK—Lack of adequate facilities in what may be called the receiving and shipping department of the Tomba was blamed by keepers there for the escape temporarily of Karl Jansen.

Jansen came in a patrol wagon with 15 other men, the batch being in charge of John Reilly, driver of the Black Maria. Reilly marched them into the Tomba reception room and while a receipt for them was being made out a deputy sheriff passed through the room with a dozen men on their way out after having given bail.

A few minutes later it was discovered that Jansen had gone along with them. From the Tomba Jansen went to his home, to be arrested there within 40 minutes after his escape.

Says Red Hair Aids Girls To Wed

LONDON—"Have you noticed that there are very few red-haired old maids?" said an anthropologist. "Red-haired people are of a very high order of intelligence. Consequently red-haired girls have many admirers and marry young." His opinion was expressed relative to the statement of a movie producer that brunettes are cleverer than blondes. Several scientists agreed generally that both men and women of dark complexion are quick-witted and imaginative, while the great majority of fair people are more hard-headed but a little slower in mental response.

WISH COSTS GIRL'S LIFE.

DANVILLE, Ill.—Longing for comfort cost Anna Chaikus, 17 years old, her life. She obtained employment as a servant at the home of Hiram Ross here. The guest room attracted her and, despite the orders of her employer not to enter it, she persisted in going in to enjoy its comforts. She slept there several nights and then lighted a gas stove with which the apartment was heated. She was not familiar with the operation of the heater and her clothing caught fire. She was fatally burned.

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